

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1131 – HB 1173

March 16, 2014

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Creates a misdemeanor for an authority figure at a community facility failing to report to law enforcement authorities any unlawful sexual contract or suspected unlawful sexual contact of a child, teen, or young adult.

Defines “child,” “teen,” and “young adult” as:

- Child means any person under the age of 13;
- Teen means a person between the ages of 13 and 17; and
- Young adult means a person between the ages of 18 and 25.

Defines “community facility” as buildings and equipment for recreation or social assemblies for educational, religious, social, health, or welfare purposes, including but not limited to facilities operated at schools, the Boy or Girl Scouts, the YMCA or YWCA, the Boys and Girls Club, and church or religious organizations.

Failing to report actual or suspected unlawful sexual contact is:

- A Class A misdemeanor and the maximum fine is \$3,000 if the victim is a child;
- A Class B misdemeanor and the maximum fine is \$3,000 if the victim is a teen; or
- A Class C misdemeanor and the maximum fine is \$3,000 if the victim is a young adult.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014490): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Requires an authority figure at a community facility to report any knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been sexually abused to the Department of Children’s Services (DCS).

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumption for the bill as amended:

- It is assumed that requiring authority figures at community facilities to report suspected child abuse to DCS will not significantly impact the number of reports the department receives; therefore there will not be a significant impact to state or local governments.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/trm